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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/580,719	05/24/2006	Konrad Bleier	2003P01797WOUS	3887
46726 7590 12/04/2008 BSH HOME APPLIANCES CORPORATION INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY DEPARTMENT 100 BOSCH BOULEVARD NEW BERN, NC 28562				
EXAMINER				
FISHMAN, MARINA				
ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
2832				
MAIL DATE		DELIVERY MODE		
12/04/2008		PAPER		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/580,719

Applicant(s)

BLEIER ET AL.

Examiner

Marina Fishman

Art Unit

2832

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 03 November 2008.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 15 - 17, 19, 20 and 22 - 27 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 15 - 17, 19, 20, 22, 23, and 27 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 24-26 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

General status

1. This is a First Action on the Merits for RCE. Claims 15 -17, 19, 20 and 22 - 27 are pending in the case and are being examined.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 24 – 26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Admitted Prior Art in view of Fitch [1,077,877].

Regarding Claims 24 – 26 the Admitted Prior Art [instant specification page 1, lines 11-12 and 24-31] discloses a household appliance comprising: at least one electrical load in the form of a selected one of an electrical interior light and an electrical load that is not an electrical interior light along with the associated switches. However, the Admitted Prior art does not disclose the electrical load being actuatable by a selected one of a switching device and an arrangement for detecting at least two different positions. Fitch discloses an arrangement for detecting two different positions [On and Off], the arrangement including a movable door element [C] in operative communication with a switching device [I], wherein the operative communication between the door element and the switching device is selectively separable. Regarding Claims 25 and 26, the Admitted Prior Art and Fitch disclose the switching-on and switching-off function

for the at least one electrical load can be deactivated by separating the operative connection between the switching element and the electrical switch [by use of door element C].

Allowable Subject Matter

4. Claims 15 - 17, 19, 20, 22, 23, and 27 are allowed.

Response to Arguments

5. Applicant's arguments filed 11/2/2008 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

The Applicant's remarks related to Claims 24 - 26 have been addressed. On page 8 and 9, of Remark, the Applicant has discussed what the Claim 24 recites and how the Fitch device operates, however, did not particularly point out what limitation in the Claim 24 are not met by the applied reference. On page 12, the Applicant alleges that Admitted Prior Art and Fitch, either alone or in combination, do not teach or suggest the subject matter defined by independent Claim 24; therefore, Claim 24 is allowable. Applicant, however, did not specifically point out, which particular limitation, if any, are not taught or suggested by the applied references. As a note, the Applicant is reminded that Claim 24 has to meet one of the two limitations (a) a switching device or (b) an arrangement, and the Examiner has elected to meet limitation (b).

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Marina Fishman whose telephone number is (571)272-1991. The examiner can normally be reached on 7-5 M-T.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Elvin Enad can be reached on 571-272-1990. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Elvin G Enad/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2832

/Marina Fishman/
Examiner, Art Unit 2832
November 25, 2008